

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

## Church of God Servant



Volume 30, No. 9

38th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

35c Per Year

April, 1961

### *Walking in the Will of God*

By Margaret K. Fraser

Though storms may rage and winds may blow,  
I need not be cast down nor awed,  
Because it calms my soul to know  
I'm walking in the will of God.

Although my path be dark as night,  
And often falls the chast'ning rod,  
I'm glad I walk by faith, not sight,  
When walking in the will of God.

I know whene'er I backward gaze  
Upon the road that I have trod,  
The sweetest way to spend one's days  
Is walking in the will of God.

So though the way be hard and long,  
O'er mountains steep and valleys broad—  
I'll face the future with a song  
When walking in the will of God.

—Selected by Mrs. J. Wilson Cox

### CONFIDENCE

"For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves [or for yourselves] that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." Heb. 10:34, 35. The foregoing passage points out the necessity of two very important virtues that one must possess in order to be a successful warrior. Paul had commended the brethren for their endurance in the great fight of afflictions, and their willingness to become a gazing stock, both by reproaches, and afflictions, and also to be numbered with those who were being persecuted in the same manner as they were, and for their love and compassion of him, being so great, they were willing to, and

did take joyfully the spoiling of their goods, because they knew in themselves that Christ had promised them a great reward in heaven. Their faith, their trust, their confidence in God, their inner experience, having been illuminated by the Holy Spirit, built up within them the power to joyfully endure in the fight.

After his commendation, Paul exhorted them to hold fast to the faith, with patience; saying, "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward, For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." We see then that the two virtues needed are confidence and patience.

Definition of confidence: Firm belief, a trust.

Definition of patience: A calm bearing of pain, a calmly waiting.

To succeed in any line of business, there must be confidence. There must be confidence to form a partnership or an industrial company. If one is to go on a journey, he or she must have confidence in the operating crew, if on a railway train; or in the driver, if going by bus; or in his own vehicle and in himself, if traveling by auto. If one is engaged in farming or in any pursuit in life; if he succeeds, it is because he has confidence in his efforts and is expecting to be rewarded for his labors. And of course, after the labor is finished, there is usually a period of waiting before the reward is received. We might call this patience with expectation and hope, he looks forward to the time when he shall be rewarded.

Generally speaking, there are three sources from which we receive confidence; namely, recommendation, experience, and observation. If we, through experience, have confidence in someone and that one in turn recommends some other person to us, we have confidence through recommendation. If we have confidence in some others by watching their conduct and actions and listening to their conversation, we have received confidence through observation. Should either of these fail to live up to the recommendation or experience, or performance of deeds or actions, our confidence is shaken or destroyed; or, in other words, we cast away our confidence in them because they have been unfaithful, have betrayed confidence,

or have proven themselves unworthy of our confidence.

"Confidence in an unfaithful man in the time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint." Prov. 25:19. On account of the unfaithfulness of men, and their failure to fulfill their promises, many hearts have been made sad; hopes and expectations have been blasted, purposes defeated, burdens made heavier, and many have gone down in despair. Micah 7:5, "Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom." "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes" Psa. 118:8-9. "For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken." Prov. 3:26.

Although so many men have failed, betrayed confidence, have walked unworthy, yet God has a host of servants walking in the light of His holy Word, directed by His Spirit, that have proved themselves worthy of our confidence through the Lord. Unto some Paul wrote, "And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you. And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patient waiting for Christ." 2 Thess. 3:4, 5. The Lord said to the disciples, "In your patience possess ye your souls." Men fail, men fall, but we can recommend and lift up an infallible guide, in whom we can place implicit faith and confidence, a perfect trust without fear. **Jesus never fails.** He will never give an occasion to cause one to lose confidence in Him. Cast not away your confidence in His promises. A great recompense of reward is waiting. He has said, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10.

In 2 Tim. 1:11-12 Paul makes this declaration, "Wherefore I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." His confidence in God was unshaken, his trust was complete. He was acquainted with Christ and was, as he said, persuaded that He was able to keep that which he had committed to Him. He exhorted Timothy to "hold fast the form of sound words," "preach the word." The word of God is sure and steadfast; it will never fail; it will never pass away. When out on the stormy deep, Paul said, "Wherefore sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." Acts 27:25. Even though it seemed as if the ship would be torn to pieces, which it finally was; still he held fast to his confidence in God's promise and all on board had a safe landing—not one was lost.

Do you believe the Word of God? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." And the "Word was made flesh and dwelt among us," (St. John 1:1 and 14a) which was Jesus Christ. After his resurrection He said, "I ascend unto my Father and your Father; and to my

God and your God. When the martyr Stephen was being put to death, "he being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God." Remember, Jesus said, "If I go . . . I will come again." The angel said, "This same Jesus will come again." Enoch prophesied, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints." Infidels and scoffers are saying, "Where is the promise of his coming?" Peter says, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night." James exhorts us, saying, "Be ye also patient, for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh" James 5:8. Now we can see the patience of the saints. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. 9:28.

Dear ones, hold fast onto faith in and obedience to the word of God, trusting and confiding in his promises through honor and dishonor, through adversities, and reproaches, through applauses and hissings and ridicule. Whatever comes or goes, hold on with love and faith, with confidence, watching and waiting for the Lord's return. "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward."  
—Ulysses Phillips.

### What Lack I Yet?

The rich young man that came to Jesus may have been overbalanced by his love of riches, yet he had an anxious desire to know his duty toward God. After being told what was required of him, the question, "What lack I yet?" certainly indicates a disposition of heart that is to be praised. He was not just exactly satisfied with his present record although it included that great foundation principle—"Love thy neighbor as thyself." And the fact that Jesus loved him argues sincerity in all his claims and questions.

Paul manifests this same disposition of heart when he said, "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ, in my flesh for his body's sake which is the church." It seemed that the young rich man could not live out his desire, but Paul has given us a real example of faith that knows no bounds; and surely we should not be willing to follow the character that has come down in history as a failure in preference to characters, the very mention of whose names make us better.

But perhaps the young rich man,—failure as he seemed to be—, is ahead of many of us. It seems that we suffer no uneasiness over the thought of "What lack I yet"? We find various excuses for not doing many of the commands of the Lord, and rejoice that we have been permitted to indulge ourselves in the fads and conveniences of a fast age, while souls all about us are going to perdition for lack of the living Bread of life. Instead of the question, "What lack I yet?" we so often hear, "Do you think the Lord will require that of me?", in reference to some

of His plain commands. They seem to want to get through with the least possible service or sacrifice.

The feeling that prompted the question, "What lack I yet?", if nourished and kept alive, would solve the problem of building up the cause of Christianity everywhere. If such a restless desire were in the hearts of God's people, it would mean a missionary in every destitute field, and they would not be left to starve or be bound hand and foot for lack of means to carry on their work. It would mean a fellowship that would bind God's faithful together so that when one member suffers all the members would suffer with it.

It would seem that this great desire in the young rich man was smothered out by greed for worldly riches. It makes us sad to think of him. But brother, sister, the absence of this restless desire,—"What lack I yet? What more can I do?"—in our hearts indicates the same condition of heart that led this young man to his destruction.

With Paul let us watch for the opportunity to suffer hardship for Christ. —Lottie L. Jarvis

### Only a Tallow Dip

The following was related in an evangelistic meeting: A woman who had been bedridden for years lived near the railroad track, a long way from any other house. Near by was a deep gully over which the railroad passed on a new, substantial iron bridge, as was supposed. There was a terrible wind one night. This poor woman, as was often the case, was alone. All at once she heard a fearful crash; she felt sure it was the bridge. She looked at the clock. In ten minutes the through passenger train would be along. What should she do? Her son was away from home. Praying earnestly to God for help, she took the only light in the house, a tallow candle, and began to crawl (for she could not walk) toward the railroad track. How she ever got there she never knew. Reaching the track, she could hear the roar of the coming train. She prayed this prayer: "O God, help me to light this candle, and keep it burning until the engineer sees it; and make him see it." God heard her prayer. The candle was lighted, there was a lull; just then she waved the candle—would the engineer see it? She heard a grating sound, she knew the brakes were set. She lost consciousness then, but the train came to a standstill a few feet from the yawning chasm. Hundreds of lives were saved. This weak, sick woman did what she could; God used what she had. He will use what you have for the saving of men, if you will do your part.

O Christian! if that poor woman felt so deeply the need, and made so great an effort to save the passengers of that train from physical death, how ought you to feel, and what effort ought you to make, in order to rescue the multitudes about you that are hurrying on to eternal ruin, unconscious of their danger and ready to perish, unless some one, who has the light and knowledge, goes to their rescue?

—Touching Incidents.

### God Uses Small Things

God used a bird to feed his prophet Elijah during a famine. He used Moses' rod or shepherd's staff in doing many mighty miracles for the delivering of his people Israel from bondage as slaves of Pharaoh. (Exodus, starting with 4th chap.). Then as recorded in John 6:9 He used five barley loaves and two small fishes, which a lad had, to feed five thousand men beside women and children, and they took up twelve baskets full of fragments. He used a poor widow's offering of two mites to bring forth a wonderful lesson to his disciples and to us a lesson of sacrifice. She gave her all and even though it was small Jesus commended her. This incident is recorded in Mark 12.

We can see now how God uses small things to perform great things. God asked Moses, "What is that in thine hand?" and Moses answered, "A shepherd's staff." But God used it to deliver his people from bondage. Let us see what we have in our hand that we can let God use. God wants a willing heart and then He will only expect of us according to that which we have and not that which we have not. We find this in 2 Cor. 8:12.

When God gives us anything to do, he will give us the ability to do it and supply us with needed means. When we use what God gives us, then He can trust us to do more according to our ability to be used for His glory. Let us not be as the wicked servant and bury our talent, but let us use it to God's glory as the other two servants did, and heard their Lord say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Matt. 25:21. Remember God uses small things, so give Him what you have and he can increase it, and if need be, work miracles with it. Praise the dear Lord.

—Flossie Atha.

### Elijah Prayed Earnestly

"Elijah prayed earnestly." James 5:17, 18. This is the testimony of the Holy Spirit through the Apostle James. It was the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man, which availeth much. The prayers in Scripture all glow with the white heat of intensity. Remember how Jacob wrestled, and David panted and poured out his soul; the importunity of the blind beggar, the persistency of the distracted mother; the strong crying and tears of our Lord. In each case the whole being seemed gathered up, as a stone into a catapult, and hurled forth in vehement entreaty. Prayer is only answered for the glory of Christ; but it is not answered unless it be accompanied with such earnestness as will prove that the blessing sought is really needed. Our only plea with God is the merit and blood of our great High Priest, Jesus Christ. It becomes us to be humble.

Thus by his faith and prayer this solitary man brought back the rain to Israel. Why should not we learn and practice his secret? It is certainly within the reach of all of us. Then we, too, might bring from heaven spiritual blessings to all who need them.

—F. B. Meyer

**"FAITH AND VICTORY"****16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published each month (except August of each year, which is campmeeting month, and we omit an issue that month to attend these meetings) by Fred Pruitt, assisted by other consecrated workers at FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the month of issue.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced; including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the promulgation and restoration of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God; no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ; and separation from all human organizations—such are not authorized in the Word.

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Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. All personal checks and Post Office Money Orders should be made payable to Fred Pruitt, or to Faith Pub. House. All offerings and gifts given or sent to Fred Pruitt will be used in the general up-keep of the printing work unless you state that it is for personal needs. We make His work first.

The Faith Publishing House is incorporated under the laws of the State of Oklahoma as a non-profit religious organization.

**FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE**

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The Church of God Chapel at Guthrie, Oklahoma is located on the corner of Sixth and W. Warner. The congregation welcomes you. —Bro. Ira D. Stover, Pastor  
417 N. 13th, P. O. Box 210, Phone BUTler 2-3244

**Editorials**

The Lord has been giving us good weather for the building of the addition to the print shop. The brethren have the roof on and the windows in; now the inside will have to be finished—a partition between the rooms and sheet rock put on the walls. The floor in the other part of the office room is a wooden floor which was put in over thirty years ago. The termites have eaten it so badly that it is in a very poor condition. If the Lord wills, we expect to tear this old floor out and put in a cement floor, which should last indefinitely.

We are praying the Lord to take care of all this expense, since this has been needed for so long. We do appreciate what He has done and feel His approval resting upon these needed additions to "The Lord's Print Shop." We ask your prayers and cooperation in every way that the Lord may direct you. This printing work is in the hands of God and we mean for it to stay that way until Jesus comes and the judgment takes place and the earth and all things therein will be burned up.

This printing work is incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma as a non-profit work and is not subjected to state tax. We do not mean by this that the Church of God is humanly organized, for the Lord set up the Church on the day of Pentecost and has organized it Himself and placed the members in the body as it pleased Him. All these humanly organized so-called churches are not the true Church, for no man can improve on what the Lord has already done. We become members of the true holiness Church of God when we are born from above by a spiritual birth. God Himself places us in His Body, the Church, and we function in our place by the directions of his Spirit and Word. Any body of people that is humanly organized is not the true Church of God. There is no one with a dog nature, a bear nature or a lion nature in the true Church of God. All the whoremongers, murderers, idolators and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie, are all outside of the Church of God. Rev. 22:15. Or the house of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15. In 1 Peter 2:5, we read, "Ye also, as lively stones, [every one in the church is spiritually alive] are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, [His people are holy] to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

The Apostle Paul said that the gospel was the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew and also the Gentile. When the gospel is preached by the anointing from heaven it will work miracles because the Spirit of God works with the Word and makes it effectual upon hearts who are seeking for truth and righteousness. Jesus said in the fifth chapter of Matt., "Blessed are they that

hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled." God is looking for souls that are seeking and looking for Him. Zacchaeus was looking for the Lord and he put forth some effort to see Him by climbing up in a tree and when Jesus came by there He looked up and saw Zacchaeus and He told him to come down, "for today I must abide at thy house." It is stated that Zacchaeus made haste and came down and received the Lord joyfully. Zacchaeus said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; [his heart was loose from his riches] and if I have taken anything from any man through false accusation, I restore him four fold." Jesus said, "This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham." He became a son of Abraham because he manifested faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. You can be a son of Abraham by doing like wise today. Very few today seem to go far enough in their consecration to really become a son of Abraham. Most of them say that all they have is consecrated to God, but it seems that the Lord has a hard time getting much of it to use in His work of taking the gospel to men; therefore the souls of many do not prosper. Giving is to the soul as air is to the body. When air is shut off from the body, in a small degree, it will begin to weaken and unless it gets air the body will die. When you cease to give out as God gives in, your soul will dwindle and die and you will be left with a cold profession. Folks need to obey the Word of God for it is God's voice to you. Paul told Timothy to "preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; [that time is here now] but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." They misinterpret the scripture and thereby lead the people in a false way.

In 2 Timothy 3:15 we read, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." The minister is exhorted in the third chapter of Ezekiel to warn the righteous that they sin not or else God will require their blood at his hand.

God works by His Word and Spirit to cause the seeking heart to soften up to all truth and to abide in Him. In Hebrews 4:12, we read, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and open unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." No one will be able to escape the day of judgment and that day is coming very soon. Dear soul, prepare to meet thy God. In this world God is allowing you to do as you please. You have the choice to make. You can serve Him or you can go on in sin, but remember, God will

bring you into judgment on that terrible day where you will be summoned to give an account to God of all your deeds done in this world and receive your eternal doom.

God says in Eccle. 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." Christ is the only hope for man; cover your soul by faith in His precious blood and then you can have access to God through Him and he will succor you in time of need, will make you able to live a holy life before Him and in that great judgment day receive you into glory to live with Him forever. In that heavenly abode you can wear a crown that will never fade away. How glorious it is to have that hope in your soul right here in this present world. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. "Great peace have they that love thy law and nothing shall offend them."

Friend, get in touch with God through Christ and live forever with God thy Father.

### Obituaries

Sister Postena Blanche Warren, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Galloway, was born June 7, 1919 at Beggs, Oklahoma; departed this life Feb. 25, 1961 at the age of forty-one years, seven months, and eighteen days.

In 1939 she was married to Woodrow Warren. To this union thirteen children were born, six daughters and seven sons, two preceding her in death.

In 1940 she was saved in the church of God with the saints and remained until her departing. She was faithful unto the end.

Bereaved are: her husband, Woodrow Warren; five daughters, Frances Marzella, Ruth Ella, Marjorie Ann, Charlotte Anna, and Mary Lou; six sons, McKinley, Woodrow Jr., Ramond, Robert Lee, James, and Bruce Edwards; also a father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Galloway; and a host of relatives and friends. She was a faithful wife and mother with a quiet and meek spirit.

Do not seek to know the future,  
Do not stop to question why;  
Follow where the Saviour leads you,  
And you will meet her bye and bye.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

In memory of Alice Minnie Dees, who was called from labor to reward September 19, 1960.

Alice Minnie was born in Hot Springs, Ark. June 7, 1892, the daughter of William and Laura Reed. At an early age she professed knowledge of the Lord and became affiliated with the evening light saints, the Church of God. From then on she has been of that faith.

She was united in holy matrimony to Rufus Dees, now deceased, Feb. 2, 1919 in Manford, Okla. The family moved to Yuma, Arizona in 1924 where they homesteaded in the North Gila Valley. Ten children were born to Alice and Rufus, two having preceded her in death. Surviving are: three sons, William of San Diego, Calif., and Ralph and Leroy of Yuma; a step-son, John Dees of Yuma; five daughters, Mrs. Joy Hughes, Mrs. Lottie Hunter, Mrs. Bertha Jean Solomon, Mrs. Dorothy May Kelly, all of Yuma, and Mrs. Loreatha Wagner of San Diego, Calif., Mrs. Mary Edward, Mrs. Willie Irene Roberson, Mrs. Olberta Roberson, all of Yuma; four brothers, Luther

and Sanders Reed of Tulsa, Okla., Isaac Reed of Los Angeles, Calif., and Albert Reed of Yuma; three sisters, Mrs. Ruth Walters, Mrs. Carrie Woods, and Mrs. Lottie Buchanan, all of Tulsa, Okla.; fifty-four grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

Sister Dees demonstrated the principles of her religion, that "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

Bro. J. T. Johnson officiated at the funeral service, assisted by Bro. L. E. Gaines and Bro. Z. E. Francisco. Texts: Heb. 9:27 and Matt. 24:44.

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Curtis William Miles of Flora, Illinois, the youngest child of W. I. and Lycenia Miles, was born July 4, 1923 and passed to his eternal reward on March 2, 1961 at the age of 37 years. Interment was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, Mo.

He was saved a number of years ago after returning from service in World War II. At his passing he had the testimony that he was ready to go. Toward the end, after several months of suffering, the song entitled, "The Old Rugged Cross," was appropriately sung at his bedside. In a few days he "exchanged his cross for a crown."

He leaves to mourn their loss his wife, Lorine; a son, Curtis, Jr., and a daughter, Janetta, all of the home; his mother, Sister Lycenia Miles, Guthrie, Okla.; six brothers, Clarence of Glendale, Calif., Cecil and Claude of San Bernardino Calif., Clyde of Los Angeles, Carl of Guthrie, Okla., Clyne of Sun Valley, Calif., and three sisters, Mrs. Maude Hornbeck of Oklahoma City, Okla., Mrs. Maybelle Pruitt of Guthrie, Okla., and Mrs. Wilma Nichols of Los Angeles, besides many other relatives and friends.

#### A Card of Appreciation

We wish to take this means of expressing our deep appreciation to all the saints and friends everywhere for their consideration, love and prayers during our recent bereavement in the passing of our youngest brother, Curtis W. Miles.

As it is almost impossible to answer each individual with a letter, we say from the depth of our hearts, thank you and may God richly bless you for the many cards of sympathy, letters of encouragement, visits of consolation, and the beautiful floral offerings. My mother, Sister Lycenia Miles, also my brothers and sisters, join in this sincere word of appreciation to everyone. May God bless you.

—Maybelle Pruitt

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#### PARTIAL LIST OF CAMPMEETINGS IN 1961

More Information Will Be Published Later

Hennessey, Okla.—June 2-11.

Jefferson, Oregon—June 30-July 9.

Hammond, La. (General Southern) June 30-July 9.

Green Pastures, Okla.—July 7-16.

National Campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Mo., July 21-30.

Guthrie, Okla. (Oklahoma State) Aug. 4-12.

Dover, Okla.—September 1-10.

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#### EASTER MEETING AT GUTHRIE, OKLA.

All-day services will be held at the Guthrie, Okla. chapel on Easter Sunday, April 2, with a basket lunch at noon. The ordinances of the New Testament will be observed in the afternoon. Bro. Lewis Williams will be with us every night in service from March 26 to Easter Sunday, Lord willing. All are welcome to come and worship the Lord with us.

—Ira D. Stover, Pastor

#### EASTER SERVICES AT COFFEYVILLE, KAN.

There will be an all day meeting at Coffeyville, Kans. Easter Sunday. Sunday School 9:45; Preaching Service 10:45. We will observe the ordinances of the church: feet washing and the Lord's Supper in the afternoon. We invite all who can, to come and be with us and enjoy the blessings of God.

Sister Margaret Eck

#### Prayer Request

Dear saints everywhere:—Will you please pray very earnestly for the complete healing of my daughter who is seriously afflicted in different ways; also that her faith be increased and she might receive the spiritual help she needs that her work for the dear Lord will not be hindered.

—A very much concerned mother.

#### A REPORT FROM THE FIELD

Calif.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt: We greet you in holy Christian love in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Surely we can say He has done great things for us whereof we are glad.

Friday night my wife fell and sprained her ankle. She has a lot on her now with sick ones to care for. Also we had the funeral service for Bro. Erle Forbes on hands for Saturday and were preparing dinner here at our home for the family and relatives following the funeral. That all made a lot of responsibility and duty for her and Saturday morning she was crippling around much but going ahead about her duties. When we had our morning worship we just laid that matter before the Lord and told Him how badly she needed to be healed of that and able to get about freely, and He was entreated of us and right away she was walking better. By funeral time she only had a slight limp, and yesterday morning the trouble was all gone and I could detect no limp at all in her walk. We surely thank and praise the Lord for hearing prayer and coming to our aid in this matter at a time of great need. He said in His Word that He would supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus, and we should just believe it that way and not be surprised when He does it.

We made the trip Thursday to Ensenada, Baja Calif., Mexico to hold a service in the prison there. We go every two weeks, on Thursday, and there are some there in the prison who show a good interest in the gospel and some have professed salvation. I don't know how much they know about it—possibly very little as yet. But it manifests a working of the Spirit of God in their hearts when they will step out from a bunch of rough men like that and express their desire to be saved and ask for prayer. It makes a pretty rugged day for us in the days we go down there. We drive more than 500 miles and have the service and do some visiting and usually leave early and get back late. We distribute Bibles and song books among those who show a good interest and are hoping for some fruit from the effort in those prison services.

At the funeral service of Brother Erle Forbes the Spirit of the Lord hovered very near and it was a real sacred and precious service. There was a large crowd and lots of tears all through the congregation, but the saints felt victory and there were many "amens" and praises to God from all parts of the congregation all the way through the service. Someone said to me that they had never been in one of the saints' funeral services before and had never seen one like that. Another party said they had been attending funeral services among the saints all of their life but had never been in one like that. Some-

one said to me yesterday that there just was not any room for sadness there. It surely is a blessing from God when the Spirit of the Lord comes in times like that and banishes sadness and fills hearts with peace and comfort.

Yesterday was all day meeting in San Bernardino. Bro. Gene Harmon always goes there for their all-day meeting, but he was sick in bed. Sister Poulos and Gus are both pretty frail so they asked me to come over and help them out, which I did. Sister LaVern Manual had a bad attack yesterday morning. They phoned over here for prayer and the Lord heard and relieved her.

Some of the Pomona folks came to San Bernardino in the afternoon and Sister LaVern sent word to me that if I possibly could to come to Pomona and take care of the service there last night and come in time to go by and pray for her. I went and found her feeling much relieved and better than she had been, but so weak she could not walk without stabbing pains and turning dizzy. Her condition still was not good. The Lord blessed us with a good service. When all were gone and I was getting ready to drive out, I was called to go pray for Sister Stonecypher who was in a bad condition. Other saints were contacted, who met me there, and we prayed with her until she got the victory. Thank the Lord for His mercies to His children.

With Christian love and prayers,

Ostis B. and Opal Wilson.

## What Shall We Do?

In Psalm 11:3 we read, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" The second verse the scripture reads thus: "For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart."

Let us see what the Bible says about foundations. Turn with me to Eph. 2:20 and let the word of God tell us: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone". By this scripture we can see that the apostles and prophets are foundation stones and that Jesus Christ is the chief corner stone in the Church of God, the body of Christ, the family of God which is functioning in the world and showing the truth to men. Paul tells us in First Timothy 3:15 that the house of God is the Church or family of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 3:11, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." Those that build on any other foundation besides Jesus Christ and the apostles are building on sandy foundations that will be sure to crumble and fall when the storms of life beat upon the building. Any one that is not diligent about keeping the teachings and sayings of Christ and the apostles that he has had light on will in that way destroy the sure foundation from under his own understanding; and in the end will find himself like the five foolish virgins: the oil or Spirit will have been sapped or leaked out and the door into heaven will be shut. How sad that will be for him!

I feel that it would please the Lord for us to warn the righteous that they sin not, sow not to the flesh but to the Spirit. Here is the word of the Apostle

Paul in the 6th chapter of Galatians, beginning at the 7th verse: "Be not deceived; [You can deceive your own soul, but you cannot deceive God] God is not mocked: [He knows what you are doing.] for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." By this scripture we can see how needful it is for us as his children to take heed and see to it that we are sowing to the Spirit. If we do otherwise, we will be destroying our foundation and will not be able to endure unto the end and thereby be saved. Let us read Col. 3:1-3: "If ye then be risen with Christ, [or have been born from above] seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead [to the world] and your life is hid with Christ in God." If we do these things we have a promise that, "when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." In the next verse we are told to mortify (mortify means to put to death) our members which are upon the earth; and "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Verse 16. In the 17th verse we are exhorted to be diligent, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." 1 Cor. 10:31: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." If you are doing things or spending your time in a way that is not to the glory of God, you had better quit it at once, for such would be sowing to the flesh and you would be gratifying the flesh. The Lord tells us through Peter to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul (1 Pet. 2:11). In James 4:4 we read, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." Jesus said to the disciples, "Ye are not of the world even as I am not of the world;" and to the religious Pharisees he said, "Ye are from beneath, I am from above, ye are of this world, I am not of this world." People who partake of the spirit of the world by fleshly lusts and conform to its ways, fashions, and fads are the enemies of God, no matter how much of a profession of religion they make. We are forbidden by the word of God to wear gold (1 Peter 3:3), but many, many religious people give no heed to this sacred teaching. They not only wear gold, but also adorn their bodies with other worldly adornments and follow the vulgar styles of dress. Many women put on abbreviated clothing that entices evil-minded men to lust after them. They bob their God-given hair, paint their lips and faces like Jezebel, and in many other ways disgrace the name of Christ. Such people should remember that God is not mocked or deceived about the condition of their souls.

It seems that the world is racing on to destruction at such a rapid rate that folks who try to keep up with it have no time for God. The late inventions are occupying all their time. Such things as cars, airplanes,



radios, and televisions seem to completely possess their minds until they have no time to think of the most important thing; which is their poor soul that is dead to the good things of God. The word of God says, "She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." Others who have some spiritual life are living in the shadow of Egypt where their souls will soon be so weakened that they will also fall a prey to the evil and deceitful workings of Satan. Read the first three verses of the thirtieth chapter of Isaiah.

Brethren, in the second chapter of Joel we are told to blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in God's holy mountain. Verse two speaks of a day of darkness and gloominess, and day of clouds and thick darkness. In Isaiah 58:1 we read, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins."

Brethren, we need to cry out against all these lustful things that are crowding in among the saints of God and show up the sinfulness of these intruding worldly things that bring destruction to the soul. God has called His holy ministers to be watchmen on the walls of Zion. We need to take heed to ourselves and to the flock over which the Lord has made us overseers. The little foxes spoil the vines. If the little transgressions can be kept out, then there will be little danger of big transgressions (Psa. 18:13).

I am persuaded that for the good of the church now and its future welfare, no one should be ordained among us as a minister if he or she has a television in his home or favors such things or any other worldly thing in dress or otherwise. We, as ministers of the living God, should be watchful and diligent in these matters lest we also be carried away with the error of the wicked. The scripture makes it plain in Second Thessalonians, second chapter, that if we receive not a love for the truth we will be given a strong delusion from the Lord and in the end be damned. Those who indulge in worldly dress or undress and adorn the body with the wearing of gold and other showy and needless things and take delight in television programs will thereby cause their souls to become weaker until they will want many things of a worldly nature and will become so darkened in soul that they will naturally separate themselves from the saints in light, because the narrow way will become grievous to them and they will take their place in the broad way with worldly religions.

The whole world has gone after television, prizing it very highly; but take heed to what Jesus, the Chief Corner Stone of the church, says (Luke 16:15): "And he said unto them, Ye are they that justify yourselves before men but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God." He was here referring to covetousness, but the same rule will apply to all this worldly dress or undress and to adorning the body and lusting after worldly things (television tops the list). The idea of a saint having a television tail sticking up from their house thereby showing that they love worldly things is a disgrace to the cause of

God—an abomination in the sight of God and to Spirit-filled men and women.

The apostle John says in 1 John 5:3, "For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." For the Spirit-filled soul to abstain from the appearance of evil or from worldly dress or television would not be grievous because they have no taste for such things. Rather than it being grievous for them to abstain from such things, it would be repulsive and insipid to their spiritual eating or taste to be around such. Brethren, let us be true to the souls of men and obey the truth taught in Acts 20:28: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Satan in these days is trying his utmost to destroy our foundation by enticing some to conform to the world and to lust after worldly things, and getting saints to be careless about keeping His commandments and doing His word. Liberal conscience doctrine is a damnable thing and will cause many a soul to be lost. Our consciences should be educated to diligently keep His word and do it; and by doing so our foundations will not be destroyed. The saints of God are a peculiar people (1 Peter 2:9) to all worldly religions. Let us not be ashamed of Him and His word, but just let the breach between the world and us be as wide as the word of God makes it. They may call us narrow minded, but the fact is that broad worldly-minded people are in the broad way that leads to destruction and eternal ruin. They seem to think that they can serve two masters, or can serve God and mammon at the same time, but the Judgment Day will reveal to them their awful mistake. We are exhorted in the 6th chapter of Ephesians, verse 11, to "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Peter tells us to gird up the loins of our mind. God will keep us in perfect peace if we keep our minds stayed on the Lord. We are exhorted to keep our hearts with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life. Brothers and sisters, let us be diligent in obeying His word and pass the truth on to others in words and deeds. —Fred Pruitt

#### THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

If people speak ill of you, live so that nobody will believe them.

Temper is a valuable possession, so don't lose it.

It is not how long you live, but how well you live that counts.

One way to make the world better is to improve on yourself.

A shady business never produces a sunny life.

You can't walk with God while you are running with the devil.

The man who is ashamed of his religion has a religion that he ought to be ashamed of.

—Sel. by M. J. Forbes, written by his niece.



### THE GOLDEN RULE HOME REPORT

To the dear saints scattered abroad we send greetings in the name of our Lord. We are still much encouraged in His service and have our minds made up to labor on until Jesus comes for the needs of souls, whether saints or sinners. The needs are surely great and God is ready to give grace and strength to all that will seek Him diligently. We desire a standing interest in all your prayers for clear leadings and guidance in all that God would have us to do.

In regard to the home to be built for the aged, neglected and handicapped saints, we had been writing about a five acre tract at the edge of Shawnee that a number of the brethren thought would be very desirable for the home. We had it much settled in our minds that that would be the right location, but the owners are quite elderly and feeble, and their children stepped in and would not let them sell, due to the fact that neither of the parents were able to make a move. Consequently, this has resulted in much more inquiry for a location.

We have prayed and sought the Lord as earnestly about this matter as we ever have anything; have driven many miles and looked at locations, some of which were desirable but the price was out of reach we felt. One of these was 40 acres, two and a quarter miles from Shawnee city limits on a black-top road. It has a four-bedroom modern house and two ponds. They were asking \$8,950.00 which we felt we could not pay, but last week we were contacted again and the man that owned the small farm was going to lose it and we were able to buy the farm for \$6,850. We had to decide before Saturday because that was the foreclosure date, so we have signed a sales contract for this property. It is a good location and has wonderful possibilities for what we have in plan. The well on the farm is good and plenty of water. The four bedroom house can be used for the brethren that plan to come and help in the building of the home, and then when the home is completed this house can be used for the workers to live in.

We feel a great relief to know that we have the land secured and now we are looking to the Lord to provide for the building of the home. If God provides, we want to start the building soon. It is in order to say that if each of us listen to God and do our part, this need can soon be met and the elderly, neglected and handicapped saints can soon have a place to be cared for around a spiritual atmosphere. We mentioned in one of our letters that if 280 persons would sacrifice \$100.00 each, this need can be met and surely that would not hurt most of us.

We surely do thank the dear Lord for the finance that has been coming in. To this date we have received \$3,820.00 toward the home plan. We made a down payment on the farm and are paying the rest as soon as God provides. May we urge each one to listen to the dear Lord for this needed work.

Yours for the furtherance of God's cause in the earth,  
—Charles R. Smith, P. O. Box 1853, Shawnee, Okla.

### Testimonies

Mo.—Dear Saints of God,—God bless you all.

Dear Sister Marie, I said when I came home I would write and tell you how good the dear Lord was to me to help me with His work. I am at home now, and the dear Lord had work for me to do when I got home.

While I was down at my sister's, it was real cold. I went on Saturday, and on Monday I wanted to go to the store and do some trading and give tracts. I had a hurtling in my back. By faith I went, knowing the dear Lord

world take care of me, and He did. It was about five blocks. After that I went in the cold to a store in another direction where I wanted to give tracts. There was much traffic on the way. A man was on one side of the street and I was on the other. I knew the dear Lord wanted me to give him some tracts. He looked toward me and I held up some tracts so he could see them. He started across the street toward me and I met him in the street and gave them to him in the street. The dear Lord took care of the traffic. I gave out more on the sidewalk. The people at the store were very nice to me. I gave out tracts to the customers and they thanked me. I bought groceries and started home carrying some, leaving the rest for the delivery boy to bring. On the way a woman stopped her car to invite me to ride. I talked to her and gave her some tracts, but did not ride because I was near home. One day I wanted to go to a place too far for me to walk and the Lord provided a way for me. A boy there seemed to be very earnest in reading the tracts. After that I was going to the Post Office to get some stamps and met a woman who talked like she knew me. She had a sweet spirit. I asked her if she knew me, but she said no. I took her name and address and want to send her the Faith and Victory. Surely the dear Lord helped us to meet. I could tell more.

The dear Lord has healed my eye since I came home. Keep praying. Thank God for His healing. He is always the same, yesterday, today, and forever. I think of that dear sister who had the cancer and was requesting prayer. There is not a tear but what the Lord knows what it is for. One of my neighbors was in the hospital when I got home and still is. They think she has arthritis in her back. Pray for her.

I have been somewhat nervous, but we serve a mighty God. There surely is much sickness.

I love Jesus,

Sister Mary Whitmore.

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### Calif.—This is My Testimony For Christ:

I am going to attempt to give my testimony of my life, hoping that by giving it I can be of some help to someone, either now or later in life. I can give only a portion of it due to the fact it would take quite some time to tell all of it. But with the Lord's help, I will attempt to give you the major portion of my life in sin. I sold my soul to the devil for "fast" money and what I believed was a good time when I was just a boy starting out in life, not realizing I was destroying everything that meant so much to me.

I left home when I was fourteen, believing I was big enough to take care of myself. I met a fellow that I believed at the time had the world all figured out. He was 18 and I was 14. We robbed and stole and hurt everyone we came in contact with. We ended up robbing the mail, and after a few months of fast living, our day came when we found ourselves standing in front of a Federal Judge. For the first time I heard myself being sentenced to three years in a Federal Reformatory for mail robbery and jewel theft. I was shocked and hurt, but not until later did I find out really how much. I was bitter and full of hatred for anything and anyone that had anything to do with justice. I escaped three times, was placed in solitary confinement eight months and served two years and eight months before I finally returned to being a human being again. But it was just a short time and I was again in trouble and stayed in trouble with the law for several years to come.

I was sentenced to: Lancaster for burglary (served 18 months, 6 months in solitary, one attempt to escape); San Quentin (destroy or injure, place of confinement,

served 13 months, 15 months on parole, one attempted escape); San Quentin armed robbery two years (served two on parole).

In 1955 while still in prison, I finally surrendered to God, pleading with all my heart for some release from all this misery and heartaches, both that I was causing and receiving. I gave the Lord my solemn promise that if he would release me from all this misery I would serve Him the rest of my days; but like everything else, I meant well but just didn't do well. When I could not satisfy God and remain a hardened criminal, I chose being a criminal. Soon I was to learn how really wrong I was.

I had been sick for fifteen years with asthma. When I turned my back on the Lord, I became worse; both sick in body and sick in soul, until I finally found myself backed up in a corner with what I thought was no way out.

I knew with all my heart that my day had finally come when I no longer had any resistance without God. My wife pleaded with me to go with her to church services and she really believed God would find a way out. I refused because I couldn't find in my heart a way out of all our troubles. No matter what I did, I couldn't promise the Lord again and fail Him anymore. That night I had my last major attack of asthma. My wife pleaded for me to change my mind, but I just couldn't. A few hours passed and I lost my voice to the extent that I couldn't even whisper. I sent my boy to the store for a writing pad. I wrote my wife a note explaining that she must stay with me. She refused so I knew I was completely helpless. I wrote another note explaining that I had to go with her because without my voice I could not even call for help. That night I went to church services, and, thank God, I was completely healed of asthma and saved for Christ.

I firmly believe that if God can forgive a person that had sunk as low in sin as I had, He surely can forgive you, if only you will not harden your heart like I formerly did. Just remember one thing, "God gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" John 3:16.

—Jack D. Horning

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La.—Dear Bro. and Sister Pruitt and all the saints in Jesus' name. I have asked for prayer and have been healed many times of different afflictions. I really thank our God and the saints who prayed for me. I am seventy years old and have never had a doctor in my home to see me, though I have been to doctors. I went to a doctor a few days ago and he said I had a heart trouble that could not be cured. I told him that God could cure it, and I know He can. I am asking the saints everywhere to pray earnestly that I will be healed. I know the Lord will answer the prayers of His saints. Pray that I will be faithful to the end. Hazel Brown

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Mo.—I feel I should write my testimony. If I live until the 30th of March, 1961, I will be 83 years old. I gave my heart to God in 1911. I have never thought of doing anything but trust Him for both soul and body. He has brought me through many hard places with victory in my soul and today He means more and more to me. My soul often cries out: "What would we do without Jesus?" He keeps me in perfect peace as I keep my mind stayed on Him. I cannot see to read the Word now, and He brings it to my mind. It is so rich to my soul. I live alone, and He comforts me in my lonely hours. I pray that the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable with God. I have been sick the past two weeks. I had the flu, then fell and hurt myself. Thank

God I did not break any bones, but I suffered with soreness. The good Lord is taking care of me and I am much better. I love all the dear saints and carry a burden for souls. All I can do is pray and trust in God. I wish I had lived all my life for him. Pray for me, saints, that I be faithful to the end. Your sister in Christ,

Minnie Noakes, 322 S. Hall St., Webb City, Mo.

My Birthday, March 30

Dear Lord, dear Lord, how can it be  
I reach the age of eighty-three?

All because of Thy sweet will,  
Thy loving kindness lingers still.

Thou hast kept me through another year,  
All thy blessings seem more dear  
As my faith looks up to thee,  
O thou Lamb of Calvary.

You died that I might live again,  
Thy precious blood removes all stain.  
I never can praise thee enough for thy love,  
Till I see thy face in heaven above.

Sister Minnie Noakes.

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Mo.—Dear Brothers and Sisters Scattered Abroad:—  
Once again we send greetings of love in the precious name of our heavenly Father. I dearly love Him more than anything else in this world. I feel so unworthy of His love to me. I am so thankful to be saved and sanctified. As He one day was looking over His creation, He saw my soul very deep in sin. I was then so wicked, lonely and miserable. Oh the bitter remorse I had, and was so sick and tired of that kind of life!

Oh, think of the precious souls who are rejecting Him! How sad! Run, flee for your life, for today is the day of salvation. Tomorrow may be too late.

Dear ones, the dear Lord plainly tells us how to live. It is up to each one to live as He tells us. Let us hold up the precious truth as it was once ministered unto the saints.

I heard two messages at Myrtle, Mo. on Sunday, Feb. 5th that were very impressive to me. I know the dear Lord would have it passed on to others. To God be the glory.

The first message was on worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness. (1 Chron. 16:29) "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name." (John 4:23, 24), "But the hour cometh, and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him." "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (Phil. 3:3) "For we are the circumcision which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh." Praise the Lord! If you hold back in worshipping Him, you will dry up in your soul.

The second message was about the Household of God. We, as God's children, are to obey His commandments. Each one has a place in the body whether we are young or old (Num. 9:15-23). Read it, but the main thought is: "At the commandment of the Lord the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the Lord they pitched." Whatsoever the Lord said to do His children obeyed Him. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." Amen.

We humbly pray that God will help us take heed to the commandments of God. For we all will be held ac-

countable in the day of judgment. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God" Rom. 12:1-2.

I am complete in Jesus' love, my soul is satisfied. By the grace of our Father I want more than ever to live humble and to be submissive unto His holy will.

May our Father richly bless you and yours is my humble prayer. Your sister in Christ, Joy Mannon.

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Okla.—Greetings to you in Jesus' name. I am still saved and encouraged to follow the Lord all the way.

I would like to tell how the Lord answered prayer for me today (January 21, 1961). As I was getting ready to go to work I discovered that I could not find my money which was to pay some bills and other things. I began to get nervous and upset over this. The thought came to me to pray, which I did. I went on to work with faith and confidence that I would find it.

After arriving home that evening I turned to do something and happened to look down and saw something on the floor. I wasn't sure what it was, so looked again. Thank the Lord, it was my money. The song came to my mind: "What A Mighty God We Serve." Pray for me that I will draw closer to the Lord. Lillie Adams.

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Ohio—Dear saints everywhere:—Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am so glad I can truly say I am saved and serving the Lord. I am so glad we are serving a living God, one who hears and answers the prayers of his children. Truly God has been good to me. He has healed me of many things, some serious. He alone has been my Physician in the five years I have been saved. The only thing it costs us is to believe and trust Him. Also I do thank God for the number of times He has healed the children.

Remember our family in prayer that we will be all that God wants us to be. Your Sister in Christ,

Mary Vise.

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Mo.—Dear Sister Marie and Co-workers, and Saints everywhere, with greetings in the blessed name of Jesus.

I believe it will be pleasing to the Lord for me to send my testimony for the Faith and Victory paper.

The dear Lord has been so good to me to take care of me, both soul and body. In December, about two weeks before Christmas, something struck me in my left shoulder. I don't believe I ever had anything to hurt me so. I was on my job helping to put my patient to bed. I could not sit nor lie down after I got him in bed. I tried lying down but could not. I got up and called Guthrie. Sister Marie answered. I told her I needed prayer. She said for me to be agreed, so I did. I lay down praising the Lord and went to sleep. Oh, how I do thank God for being so merciful to me. I want to thank each and every saint who held me up to the throne of grace in prayer. The saints are so precious. My arm still bothers some, but it is all in the hands of God.

My son needs prayer for his hip that bothers him. My brother is in a pitiful condition with stomach trouble. Everything he eats hurts him. Please pray for him both soul and body. My son needs help in soul also.

I am sending an offering to be used where it is needed. Oh, I do desire to live closer to the Lord in 1961 than ever before. The enemy comes and tries to win battles, but by God's help and grace I mean to put on the breast-

plate of faith to fight against the devil. Pray that I be an overcomer.

I pray for you dear saints. I realize you all have many burdens and trials in the work. The good Lord bless all, is my prayer. Berniece Rumpfelt

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Texas—Dear Brother Pruitt:—I have been a subscriber to "Faith and Victory" paper for two or three years. I enjoy it, especially the testimonies.

God has been good to me over the years. In the words of an old song: "I am trying to walk in the steps of the Saviour." God being my helper and keeper, I intend to go all the way with Him. My earnest desire is to be a blessing to everyone my life may touch.

May God bless you and all the members of the "Faith and Victory" family.

I awakened this morning with this poem or song ringing in my ears:

#### Song in The Night

'Tis wonderful to look and see  
The prints where Jesus trod,  
And know that He will hold my hand—  
There's joy in serving God.

'Tis sweet to have His care  
Whate'er befalls us here;  
So comforting to know He heeds  
Our every falling tear.

'Tis wonderful to know He guides  
As through this world we roam;  
Though cares may press and trials distress,  
God will lead His children home.

Mrs. Grace Cunningham.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Pa.—Dear Saints and Readers of "Faith and Victory," Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus, the sweetest name on earth. Praise His wonderful name!

I am glad to be saved and serving my God; glad the Lord has paid the price for me. I would not exchange Him for the whole world of sin. I could never be happy in serving the devil again. I do not want to have any part with anything the devil has to offer, as he has nothing good to offer anyone; but his work is to get every soul he can into the place where he is going—that is a place of torment throughout eternity. God created man in His own image, and never intended for man to go to that place, but man is making his choice here in this life and will go there unless he repents and serves God, who gave His only begotten Son to die for our sins that we could have a home in heaven after this life. God's love to man was great for Him to do that for us. He loves us all and is not willing that any should perish.

We can see from the conditions of the world that the time is drawing nearer to an end. In God's Word it tells us (2 Tim. 3:1-4): "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." Truly this is being fulfilled today. We who are saved have no time to lose in rescuing precious souls, be it little or much that we can do.

I do thank and praise God for what He has done for me. I am feeling much better since the Lord has touched my body and made my breathing better; but, dear ones, I still need your prayers for my complete healing. I

thank the dear saints who have been and are still praying for me. To those who know about the mole that I have: it has been changing for three months and has had a hard crust on it for quite awhile. Last night it came off and the mole looks smaller than it ever has, and looks much better and feels better. Thank God. Continue to pray that God will heal it completely. I also ask all the saints' prayers too. I have an inward infection that has been in my body thirteen years in April. I desire your prayers for that, too. He is so able to heal. We are serving a mighty God.

Please pray for my loved ones to be saved. I have a burden for the lost, and am praying. May the Lord bless all of His dear children and help us each one to be faithful unto the end. May the sinners come to God and repent before it is too late. Love and prayers.

In the one body, Avis Tinsley.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Dear Brother Pruitt and all the saints of God, Please pray for me that God will heal my body. Praise His dear name, I know that He is able.

The paper is a wonderful blessing to my soul. Jesus wonderfully saved me by His grace and I am rejoicing in Him. I was reared in the Episcopal Church, but praise God, one night I found Jesus sweet and precious to my soul and every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before. Pray for me that I may win many souls for Jesus.

God bless you as you labour for Him.

Mary Nicholas

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—It has been quite easy for me to tell folks, or write to my loved ones and very dear friends telling them of the wonderful blessings which have come to me within the past few months; but getting the consent of my mind to write and have it printed in the "Faith and Victory" paper has been much harder to do. At the suggestion of several that I do so, as it might prove a blessing to others, I have now decided to do it. I'll not try to burden folks, nor use up too much space.

Some months past a small growth started on my left cheek, below my eye far enough not to interfere with my glasses. I need them all the time. A doctor here in the Rest Home saw it and advised using Castor Oil. I followed his advice, but the object continued to grow, so I quit. By that time it had gotten to where folks took notice of it.

We have been blessed here in this Home by having services by the Church of God members for nearly five years. So on one occasion here Bro. Goldsberry prayed for my healing, and from there on this became quite a matter for consideration. On another time mention was made about it hurting. I said not to speak of, but that I had other pains within my body which were worse. As we went to prayer again, Bro. Goldsberry prayed and really got near to God for my healing. From then on I have never had those pains again; but the facial condition continued. Folks would come in and were quite concerned when I told them what was taking place.

The prayer circle grew and grew till only God knew the limit. One lady who was quite concerned said, "It's going to come off, I'm sure it is." That was a few days before Christmas and I remarked, "Would make a wonderful Christmas gift." On the morning of December 26 about 8:30 the object fell off as would a knob when glue gave way. What caused it? do I hear someone ask? We aren't asking, because we are sure it was the answer to our many prayers, for we find God's Word is full of rich promises. The place hasn't healed as yet, but many prayers are going up for me that it may be healed in God's way and time.

Personally, I'm praying for healing, but also for patience to bide His time and keep humble through it all; for so many, even doctors are watching to see what will happen. I tell folks I'd as soon break my baptismal vow as to break this one "That I'm staying with the Lord all the way, knowing what He sees fit to do will be for the best." As yet I can't complain of any severe pain, just not a comfortable feeling, of course.

I've been a Christian many years, for I've almost reached three quarters of a century and often God has heard and answered my prayers, but this is the first time I have fully yielded to Him for complete healing.

May He use this testimony to His honor and glory and it be a help to others.

In Christian love,

Mrs. Lizzie Q. Cox.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Mo.—To the Readers of the "Faith and Victory,"

We hope that this finds each of you encouraged to live for the Lord and to go all the way. We are thankful to report victory over the enemy of our souls, the flesh, and the devil! We desire to do as Paul, die daily, die out to the desires of the flesh; for the flesh, or self, shrinks from the way of the cross.

The Lord blessed us with good health for a long time, but we have had some afflictions in the home of late; however the Lord has not permitted them to develop into something serious. The longer we put off sending in this testimony, the more we have to tell.

We are thankful for the way the Lord helped the children when they had the mumps; they got along so well.

Last summer the Lord definitely touched David's eyes after we had him prayed for. They didn't hurt him and he could see at a distance much better. We desire for each of you to remember David that the Lord will strengthen his body and keep him well so he won't have to miss school. He had missed only one or two days because of sickness until he had the mumps.

We are still enjoying the good tapes we took during the assembly meeting and we want others to hear the good messages, too. We have sent some out to different ones and they seem to be doing much good. It surely is a blessing to meet with God's people and enjoy hearing the truth.

People just can't understand the saints, because they believe the Bible from beginning to end! On one tape we heard last night, the minister warned us that there is such a spirit of unbelief in the world, it will try to creep in on us. It is dangerous to question or to try to figure out the plan of God, the creation, how the world came into existence, etc. The spirit of unbelief will get hold of a person in such a state, until they hardly believe anything in the Word of God. He exhorted us to remember that God is all wise. He does ALL things well, and His ways are ALWAYS best!

Pray for us that we will be all the Lord desires of us. Also that we seek more earnestly the gifts that He has for his people, that we might be more help to others.

Louie and Evodna Marler

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—To the Saints of God everywhere, Greetings.

I am well, still saved and sanctified, and yet encouraged to live for God. He has done more for me than I will ever be able to do for Him. He saved me from a self-righteous life, which was no more than filthy rags, and gave me an inheritance among them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus. This life is causing me to live in the fear of God and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost. The old life kept me tormented. This new life keeps my heart pure and my conscience clear. Truly I thank the Lord

for living under the shelter of the Almighty God, and there I can get his Divine protection. Living this way He gives one spiritual sight and prevents one from taking darkness for light. One can feel the presence of God in his soul and it really is glorious. The Lord has never failed me, and by the grace of God I believe He will help me to never fail Him regardless of what happens to me. This sanctified life keeps the inward man happy. I thank the Lord that I received these spiritual blessings through faith in God. This salvation is richer than I will ever be able to explain.

I was in Oklahoma recently and met some of the precious saints, which was joy to my soul. I am much encouraged to obey the Word of God. Oh, how that Scripture in Romans 12:9 does strengthen my soul!

Your brother in Christ, W. T. Tomlin.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Dear Saints abroad: Greetings of love in Jesus' precious name. Truly I feel led to send in my testimony. Recently my baby was sick. My mother and daddy who are dear saints (Bro. and Sister Felix Taylor) came over and prayed for her and the Lord instantly healed her. We were able to ride home with them, praise the Lord! I am not well in body and ask the dear saints to remember me in their prayers, that the Lord will completely heal me.

Recently we were going through a trial. We had been praying for a car. The day we were supposed to get it, the devil began to work. We prayed the harder and requested prayer before the saints. I said, "Lord, just have your way; you know what we stand in need of before we ask." While washing the next day, this verse came to me: "I have yielded myself to thy service." The title of the song is "My Heart Says Amen." This was very encouraging. I read Romans 8:31, "What shall we then say to these things, If God be for us, who can be against us?" The Lord wonderfully came to our rescue. Praise His holy name! I want to thank all the dear saints for their prayers in our behalf.

I have some unspoken requests I desire the saints to remember in prayer.

Your sister in Christ, Josephine Pannell

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ill.—Dear Sir:—I don't know who my friend is that had your "Faith and Victory" sent to me, but I thank them with all my heart. It is truly a blessing to read it and I look forward to getting it so I can read the wonderful word and the testimonies of the dear people.

God bless each and every one for the wonderful work that is being done for God. Mrs. Elsie Runner.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

God is Our Comfort!

Greetings of love in Jesus' name to all the dear saints and friends.

The many, many lovely cards and expressions of sympathy, notes and letters of encouragement and "love gifts" that my family and I have received in our bereavement have fully proven the love that God's children have for one another. O dear ones, from the deep of my heart I thank each one. And please for the present time accept this as my letter of appreciation to you.

The other day as the cards of comfort and "love gifts" were still coming in, I said to my son, "Oh, I'm not worthy of all this. I cannot understand it." And he said to me, "Mama, you and Daddy didn't believe in having Life Insurance, you believed in trusting God for all things, and now that you have received this money to cover the expense of laying Daddy away is the result of your trusting in God." I hadn't thought of it in just that way, but it brought tears of appreciation, praise, and thanksgiving

to my Heavenly Father and to Jesus my Saviour who said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." And again it is written, "My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus."

Dear saints, I have not told this to boast—God forbid—but only to glorify God and to magnify His holy name and His word. I am not capable of expressing my thanks to each of you for all your prayers and tokens of love, but I do pray God to bestow special blessings upon you and reward you in His own good way.

I would like now to tell a little more of the Lord's blessings to me. On the day before my husband (Erle) passed away, we had spent a very profitable day in town taking care of business, then he took me to my children's Bible class and returned for me later. That evening we sat before the fireplace in our rockers, side by side, and for our evening worship, he read some in the "Faith and Victory." I read the Bible and then he prayed. Besides his thanksgiving to God and imploring His care thru the night, he quoted some scriptures. He called the names of so many loved ones—the saints, neighbors, a number of the ministers and the missionaries in Mexico, the gospel publishing work, the sick and the lost souls of our loved ones and others. And as he prayed I thought to myself, Daddy is certainly praying a good prayer tonight. I didn't once think that that would be the last time we would pray together at our family altar that we had established 47 years ago, Jan 1. Oh, the sweet memories!

The next morning he went out to work in the yard, but came back in just a few minutes with a pain in his heart and asked me to pray. Then he asked me to call Bro. Wilson. He came immediately and after prayer, his hands that were clenched because of pain relaxed—praise God!—and his cries to God—"Lord, help me," ceased. The dear Lord had helped him and took away the pain and in just a little while he went to sleep so peacefully to be with Jesus forevermore. It all happened so quickly I could hardly realize it. But now I can thank the dear Lord he didn't let him suffer any more.

Tho my dear ones, the saints, and good neighbors did all they could for me, I went to bed that night with a severe headache as well as heartache. I prayed much till the clock struck two. Then it seemed God sent an angel to comfort me and with the voice of Bro. Chandler. He sang the precious song he often sings for us at meeting: "The Lord will make a way somehow . . . Let Him have your burden now," etc. Then Jesus said so sweetly and soothingly, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." That wonderful assurance was such a balm to my broken heart that I was soon asleep. Since then Jesus has been very near and precious to me—praise His dear name! I am so thankful to God and praise Him for all his blessings.

I still need your prayers to help me live an humble, Christ-like life.

Gratefully, your sister in the Lord, Vera Forbes.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Saints: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I feel like I ought to let the readers of the "Faith and Victory" know what God has done for us.

We went to the revival in Bakersfield last night, the eighteenth of January. It was a wonderful meeting. The minister brought out the thought that if we were Christians we would have bumps. He said that the devil would tempt us. I went up to the altar and was consecrated to God. After meeting we talked to the saints awhile then we started home. When we got within three miles of Shafter we had a wreck. Mama's ribs were hurt, maybe

broken and I was bruised a little; but God is undertaking for us. I believe that we will all be completely healed.

We were with Brother and Sister Pierro and their three children. The reason we crashed was because it was foggy and a car was parked out on the side of the highway half on and half off the shoulder, and we hit the back of the car. It was God's blessing that no one was badly hurt, and I know that God is going to bless and help us.

In the other car was a boy and three girls. They were going home from a movie in Bakersfield. The boy's finger was hurt and one girl suffered a twisted ankle. Let us hope it started them to thinking.

Please pray for us that God will heal Mother completely and that my bruises will heal. My back is also a little hurt. Please ask God to undertake. Praise God forevermore! I cannot praise Him enough.

Love, your sister in Christ, Thomasene Taylor.

### *The Power of the Blood*

The blood of Christ shed on the tree  
Is what keeps Satan off of me.

My soul resists him every hour,  
Through God's almighty, wondrous power.

When he comes 'round, and gets too near,  
I just say, you get out of here.

And take that trash you brought along,  
I'll keep you down with this new song,

Which God gave me that wondrous night  
He made my soul so clean and white.

And not one thing I'll have to do  
With Satan or his wicked crew,

For God gives me all strength and power  
To stand against him every hour.

—Bro. Trimble

### BIBLE STUDY

Primary Picture Roll, \$1.50; Lesson cards, 10c

#### CHRIST, OUR LIVING LORD

April 2, 1961

Printed Portion ..... John 20:11-22

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and

say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and unto your Father; and to my God, and your God.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.

Memory Verse: Jesus said unto them again, peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. John 20:21.

Practical Truth: The living Christ may be our constant helper.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Many today are weeping with Mary at an empty tomb. Their sorrow, disappointments and problems have closed in around them. They see no way out. They look to man for help and are disappointed. They seek help by indulging in the social drink and empty pleasures of this world. It is all empty and vanity. They do not hear the call from heaven asking, "Why weepest thou?" They just weep on and ignore the fact that there is help, but it must come from some other source than the empty tomb of man's wisdom and frailty of his strength.

But, thank God, Mary listened to that voice. She turned to Jesus and poured out her troubles. Jesus spoke her name. Oh, what love and compassion must have been in that voice. What strength poured into her soul. Her tears were dried. She wept no more. Her problem was solved. She knew that Jesus had arisen. She was given a message and a work to do. She arose and hurried to tell the glad news that Jesus had arisen. Let us today rejoice with Mary in the knowledge that we are serving a living Christ and He is abundantly able to solve all of our problems and turn our tears into joy if we will just only look to him with faith. We need not weep, because we know that our Redeemer liveth and is sitting on the right hand of God interceding for us. Look up today and put your problems in His loving hands and go on your way rejoicing. Don't sit at the empty tomb and weep any longer. Jesus is alive forever.

#### THE SOURCE OF TRUE WISDOM

April 9, 1961

Printed Portion Prov. 1:2-7; Job 28:20, 21, 28; James 1:5-7

Prov. 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.



7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Job 28:20 Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding?

21 Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living, and kept close from the fowls of the air.

28 And unto man he said, behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him.

6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Memory Verse: If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:5.

Practical Truth: God alone is the true source of the highest wisdom.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Knowledge has to do with the acquiring of facts or information, but wisdom has to do with the right use of facts, or applying them at the right time. We need to look to God for our knowledge and for wisdom in using that knowledge. Our lesson also speaks of instruction. It takes humility to take instruction. Instruction comes to us from God's holy Word, through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. God anoints His children by the Holy Spirit to give instruction. Instruction gives insight which leads to wisdom. Our lesson plainly brings out that the "fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." So it is foolish to not reverence, respect and honor the Lord from whence all of our best instruction comes and wisdom. "A wise man will hear, and increase learning; . . . and attain unto counsels."

Our lesson in James tells us where to go when we lack wisdom. God's storehouse is full of it and God will pour it out upon us liberally but there is one condition that has to be met to receive it. We must have faith that when we ask it will come. Have a faith that is steadfast and without wavering.

We read in 2 Kings about a king who spread a letter out before the Lord and sought wisdom and help from God. In Psalms 1:1 we read, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly." Look to God and His people for counsel and not the worldly man.

### WHEN THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFER

April 16, 1961

Printed Portion ..... Job 2:3-6; 19:13-21

Job 2:3 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

4 And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life.

5 But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.

6 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.

Job 19:13 He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me.

14 My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

15 They that dwell in mine house, and my maids, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight.

16 I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth.

17 My breath is strange to my wife, though I intreated for the children's sake of mine own body.

18 Yea, young children despised me; I arose, and they spake against me.

19 All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me.

20 My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth.

21 Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

Memory Verse: Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. James 1:12.

Practical Truth: We should not regard suffering as any sure indication of God's displeasure.

### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

The book of Job is an inspiration to all who read it. No one has suffered possibly as much as Job, except our Lord and Saviour. It was hid from Job why the calamities came upon him but revealed to us as we read. Satan felt that Job served God just because of the gifts and blessings he received or had. God wanted to prove that Job loved the Giver more than the gift. How glad we ought to be to know that God has a "hedge" around about us and nothing, no not even Satan, can break through that hedge unless God permits it and then he can go only so far. And if the God of all heaven and earth has His eye upon us then the thing He has permitted, we can know, will work for good some way. That good might be hid from us, but not from God. It's our place, then, to TRUST God and commit all things into His hands. Paul had a "thorn in the flesh" that God made him know he was not going to remove but he assured him that he would give him grace to bear it. (2 Cor. 12:7-10) Then in John 9 the disciples asked Jesus about the blind man, whether this man or his parents sinned, that he should be born blind. Jesus told them "Neither did this man sin, nor his parents . . . that the works of God should be made manifest in him." In other words God reveals Himself through suffering people. We should not resist God but yield to Him and in all sufferings commit things to God, continually holding steady faith in Him.

### WHEN HUMAN WISDOM FAILS

April 23, 1961

Printed Portion ..... Job 21:19-34

19 God layeth up his iniquity for his children: he rewardeth him, and he shall know it.

20 His eyes shall see his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

21 For what pleasure hath he in his house after him, when the number of his months is cut off in the midst?



22 Shall any teach God knowledge? seeing he judgeth those that are high.

23 One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet.

24 His breasts are full of milk, and his bones are moistened with marrow.

25 And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.

26 They shall lie down alike in the dust, and the worms shall cover them.

27 Behold, I know your thoughts, and the devices which ye wrongfully imagine against me.

28 For ye say, Where is the house of the prince? and where are the dwelling places of the wicked?

29 Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens,

30 That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.

31 Who shall declare his way to his face? and who shall repay him what he hath done?

32 Yet shall he be brought to the grave, and shall remain in the tomb.

33 The clods of the valley shall be sweet unto him, and every man shall draw after him, as there are innumerable before him.

34 How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?

**Memory Verse:** The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding. Job 28:28.

**Practical Truth:** Good people may do and say unwise things because of the lack of knowledge.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

Our lesson is part of what Job replied to Zophar, one of his miserable comforters. Zophar seemed to think that sinners suffer swift vengeance from God (Job 20, verse 4 and on). In Chapter 21:7 Job says that the wicked live, become old and mighty in power and their children are established in their sight, and that their houses are safe, etc. Then in verse 17 Job says, "How often is it that the lamp of the wicked is put out and that calamity comes upon them?" Job implies that it isn't very often.

In verse 19, the first verse of our lesson, it is implied that Zophar would say that God lays up the iniquity of the fathers for the children, but Job says that God rewardeth the wicked and they know it. They see their destruction and drink of the wrath of the Almighty. What do they care for their houses after them? The guilty man himself shall experience the wrath of God.

When the time comes the wicked, or father, dies. Some go down in youth and some in middle age. All shall lie down in the dust alike. We do not hear about the glorious hope that the righteous have that they shall arise to everlasting life.

God's wisdom is different than human wisdom. God permits the righteous to suffer when sometimes the wicked prosper. We want God to have his way in our life, do we not? God brought Job out.

#### WHEN GOD'S WISDOM PREVAILS

April 30, 1961

Printed Portion ..... Job 42:1-12a

1 Then Job answered the Lord, and said,

2 I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

3 Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.

4 Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

5 I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.

6 Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

7 And it was so, that after the Lord had spoken these words unto Job, the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath.

8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the Lord commanded them: the Lord also accepted Job.

10 And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.

11 Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold.

12 So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning.

**Memory Verse:** Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord. Jeremiah 9:23-24.

**Practical Truth:** God can bring relief to persecuted people and make manifest the folly of their unwise critics.

#### COMMENTS AND APPLICATION

What a wonderful climax to the sufferings of Job! Job knew that God could do everything and nothing could be stopped when he speaks. Job got his mind off himself and his boils and looked to God. He received an insight of God that he had never had before, it seems. He said, "Mine eye seeth thee." He sees God in a light that caused him to feel his nothingness and with humility he humbled himself before God. When we look at problems through God's eyes they look small. His greatness far surpasses any problem of this earth and when we belong to God He will take care of all problems. Believing that God controls your life is a foundation for perfect happiness and troubles will vanish under such positive thinking.

Now, we notice that God blessed Job and turned his captivity when he prayed for his two miserable comforters. He had a forgiving spirit toward them. We must not hold anything against anyone with an unforgiving attitude. God will not bless us with that in our hearts.

Notice the blessings brought to Job in the end. "The trial of your faith is more precious than gold." Stand steady in them and God will bring you out. God's wisdom is greater than man's, so trust Him.—Mrs. Marie Miles.